# *ANNUAL REPORT*

OF THE

# Medical Officer of Health

## FOR THE YEAR 1955.

GUERNSEY:

1956.

*Printed by GUERNSEY HERALD LIMITED, Victoria Road.*

# Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1955.

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Lukis House,
Grange,
Guernsey.
23rd April, 1956.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my twenty-first annual report for the year 1955 as States Medical Officer of Health.

There were six cases of poliomyelitis with paralysis in the Autumn; there were no cases of diphtheria and little other infectious disease.

There was one more death from Pulmonary Tuberculosis than in 1954, but the death rate remains very low; there were no deaths from other forms of tuberculosis.

The number of infant deaths was larger than in 1954, but the death rate remains low.

My estimate of population, based on natural increase and on statistics of arrivals to and departures from the Island, I now consider to be too low; in future I shall make an estimate of excess of departures over arrivals.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
ROWAN REVELL, M.D.,
Medical Officer of Health.

The President and Members,
Board of Health,
Guernsey.

## STATISTICS

### Table I.

*Sunshine*

| | |
|---|---|
| Total for 1955 | 2,129.0 hours |
| Average for 50 years | 1,880.3 hours |
| Sunless days for 1955 | 60 |
| Average for 50 years | 55 |

*Rainfall*

| | |
|---|---|
| Total for 1955 | 29.97 inches |
| Average for 50 years | 36.35 inches |
| Wet days for 1955 | 159 |
| Average for 50 years | 193 |

*Temperature*

| | |
|---|---|
| Daily Mean Temperature | 51.0°F |
| Average for 50 years | 51.4°F |
| Mean daily range | 8.9°F |
| Average for 50 years | 9.0°F |

# Table II.

| YEAR | Estimated Population to middle of each year | BIRTHS | | DEATHS | | | DEATHS Under 1 year. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | No. | Rate per 1,000 | No. | Crude rate per 1,000 | Adjusted rate per 1,000 | No. | Rate per 1000 Births, |
| 1941 ... | 23,901 | 243 | 10.1 | 398 | 16.6 | — | 5 | 20.5 |
| 1942 ... | 23,561 | 262 | 11.1 | 525 | 22.3 | — | 10 | 38.1 |
| 1943 ... | 22,641 | 337 | 14.9 | 414 | 18.3 | — | 16 | 47.5 |
| 1944 ... | 22,408 | 395 | 17.6 | 472 | 21.1 | — | 17 | 43.0 |
| 1945 ... | 25,500 | 391 | 15.3 | 436 | 17.1 | — | 11 | 28.1 |
| 1946 ... | 38,038 | 872 | 22.9 | 431 | 11.3 | 7.9 | 35 | 40.1 |
| 1947 ... | 40,674 | 900 | 22.2 | 419 | 10.3 | 7.2 | 30 | 33.3 |
| 1948 ... | 43,179 | 870 | 20.2 | 445 | 10.4 | 7.3 | 17 | 19.5 |
| 1949 ... | 44,374 | 795 | 17.9 | 495 | 11.1 | 7.7 | 20 | 25.1 |
| 1950 ... | 44,792 | 746 | 16.6 | 480 | 10.7 | 7.4 | 22 | 29.5 |
| 1951 ... | 44,498 | 775 | 17.4 | 510 | 11.4 | 8.0 | 11 | 14.2 |
| 1952 ... | 43,367 | 736 | 16.9 | 464 | 10.7 | 7.5 | 24 | 32.6 |
| 1953 ... | 44,158 | 727 | 16.5 | 456 | 10.4 | 7.3 | 23 | 31.6 |
| 1954 ... | 43,414 | 689 | 15.8 | 492 | 11.3 | 7.9 | 9 | 13.1 |
| 1955 ... | 42,073 | 667 | 15.9 | 423 | 10.0 | 7.0 | 18 | 26.9 |

## POPULATION

Allowing for an excess of emigration of 1,575 the mid-year population was estimated at 42,073.

## BIRTHS

There were 667 live births, 349 males, 318 females; a rate of 15.9 per 1,000. Still-births numbered 6, a rate of 8.9 per 1,000 live births; illegitimate births were 44, a percentage of 6.6 of total live births.

## DEATHS

There were 423 deaths, males 216, females 207, a crude rate of 10.0 per 1,000; adjusted death rate 7.0.

## MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no maternal deaths from toxic myocarditis. Under the Midwives Ordinance, 1950, medical aid was sought in 126 cases.

Fees to medical practitioners:—£387 8s. 9d.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY

There were 18 deaths under one year of age, giving a rate of 26.9 per 1,000 live births; 11 of these deaths were under one month, a rate of 16.5 per 1,000.

## MARRIAGES

There were 303 marriages, a rate of 7.2 per 1,000.

## CANCER

There were 81 deaths from Cancer, 45 males, 36 females, giving a rate of 2.0 per 1,000.

## TUBERCULOSIS

There were 6 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis; there were no deaths from other forms. The rate was 0.14 per 1,000.

Attendances at the Chest Clinic were as follows:—

| | |
|---|---|
| New cases of Tuberculosis ... ... ... ... ... ... | 32 |
| New cases not Tuberculosis ... ... ... ... ... | 3 |
| Attendances of old cases ... ... ... ... ... ... | 455 |
| X-rays taken ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2,428 |
| Cases sent to England for special surgical treatment ... | 13 |
| Cases in King Edward Sanatorium ... ... ... ... | 49 |

Inoculation of contacts of cases with B.C.G. and extensive Tuberculin testing of school children has been started; it is also intended to inoculate as many "leavers" as possible.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following cases were admitted to the King Edward Sanatorium:—

| | | Deaths |
|---|---|---|
| Bronchitis ... ... ... ... | 1 | 1 |
| Enteritis ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Infantile Eczema ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Influenza ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Impetigo ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Investigation ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Measles ... ... ... ... | 2 | — |
| Septicaemia ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Poliomyelitis ... ... ... | 7 | — |
| Septic throat ... ... ... ... | 2 | — |
| Tuberculosis ... ... ... ... | 31 | 1 |
| | 49 | 2 |

536 children were inoculated against Diphtheria; 317 were re-inoculated.

There were little notifiable diseases during the year; notifications were as follows:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Scarlet Fever ... ... ... | 3 |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... | 42 |
| Scabies ... ... ... | 2 |
| Dysentery ... ... ... | 2 |
| Poliomyelitis ... ... | 6 |

## SANITATION

Extensive sanitary work has been carried out in the Island during the year.

## WATER SUPPLIES

The States Water Supply was generally satisfactory.

## MILK SUPPLIES

Very large numbers of samples have been taken and inspections made. All milk passed through the States Dairy is now pasteurised.

## HOUSING

The shortage of houses of the past years still continues.

## SELECTED GUERNSEY HEALTH STATISTICS

| *Year* | *Infant Mortality.* *Rate per* 1,000 *Live births* | *Neonatal Deaths.* *Rate per* 1,000 *Live births* | *Still Births.* *Rate per* 1,000 *Live births* | *Pulmonary Tuberculosis.* *Rate per* 1,000 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1941 | 20.5 | — | 20.8 | 1.0 |
| 1942 | 38.1 | — | 30.7 | 0.91 |
| 1943 | 47.5 | — | 15.1 | 0.90 |
| 1944 | 43.0 | — | 20.2 | 1.2 |
| 1945 | 28.1 | — | 23.0 | 0.47 |
| 1946 | 40.1 | — | 21.7 | 0.45 |
| 1947 | 33.3 | — | 18.9 | 0.54 |
| 1948 | 19.5 | 12.5 | 24.2 | 0.79 |
| 1949 | 25.1 | 17.6 | 23.9 | 0.61 |
| 1950 | 29.5 | 22.6 | 20.1 | 0.42 |
| 1951 | 14.2 | 9.0 | 14.2 | 0.27 |
| 1952 | 32.6 | 20.3 | 21.7 | 0.21 |
| 1953 | 31.6 | 19.4 | 20.6 | 0.18 |
| 1954 | 13.1 | 8.7 | 13.1 | 0.11 |
| 1955 | 26.9 | 16.5 | 8.9 | 0.14 |

## INFANT WELFARE

## HEALTH VISITORS' REPORT

| | *Country* | *St. Peter Port* |
|---|---|---|
| Primary or First Visits | 241 | 211 |
| 0-1 year or Under 1 year | 650 | 883 |
| 1-5 years or over 1 year | 760 | 950 |
| Ante Natal visits | — | 13 |
| Foster Children and Homes | — | 21 |
| Cleanliness, neglect, etc., with Sanitary Inspector | 18 | 12 |
| Diphtheria Immunization Defaulters | — | 18 |
| Tuberculosis Visits | 34 | 52 |
| Old Age Visits | 2 | 7 |
| Problem Families | 23 | — |
| Mental Health Visits | — | 4 |
| Miscellaneous Visits | — | 27 |
| Visits with N.S.P.C.C. Officer | — | 28 |
| Infectious Diseases | — | 1 |
| Ineffectual or No Reply | 141 | 123 |

M. GRAHAM, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

M. PREVOT, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N., H.V.

## V.D. CLINIC 1955

| | Males | Females |
|---|---|---|
| (1) Number of persons who on 1st January, 1955, were under treatment for:— | | |
| Syphilis ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 4 | 5 |
| Gonorrhea ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 5 | 1 |
| Non specific or non venereal conditions ... ... | 13 | 13 |
| (2) Number of fresh infections during the year:— | | |
| Syphilis contracted locally (latent) ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Syphilis contracted outside the Island ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Gonorrhea contracted locally ... ... ... ... | — | — |
| Gonorrhea contracted outside the Island ... ... | 5 | — |
| Non specific or non venereal conditions contracted locally ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 4 | 1 |
| Non specific or non venereal conditions contracted outside the Island ... ... ... ... ... ... | 8 | — |
| (3) Cases discharged during 1955:— | | |
| Syphilis ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 3 | — |
| Gonorrhea ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 5 | — |
| Non specific or non venereal conditions ... ... ... | 9 | 2 |
| (4) Number of persons remaining under treatment on 31st December, 1955 ... ... ... ... ... ... | 24 | 18 |
| (5) Total attendances of all persons at Clinic during the year ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 294 | 54 |

## MALE SECTION

The work on the male side of the clinic during 1955 calls for no special comment. All relevant information concerning the incidence and sources of infection can be obtained easily from the attendance figures for the year.

J. E. T. STRICKLAND,
Medical Officer in Charge,
Male Section V.D. Clinic.

## FEMALE SECTION

The clinic, although the numbers are gradually diminishing, still continues to function as you will see by the attached figures of 54 attendances in the year which, I think, is quite considerable and, as always, the early diagnosis and treatment of syphilis is our primary concern.

W. R. CAMBRIDGE,
Medical Officer in Charge,
Female Section V.D. Clinic.

# DEATHS

## MALE

| | | CAUSE GROUPS | Under 1 year | 1/4 | 5/14 | 15/24 | 25/44 | 45/64 | 65/74 | 75 and over | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | YEARS | | | | | | | | |
| B | 1 | Tuberculosis—respiratory ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | 2 | 2 | 1 | — | 5 |
| B | 3 | Syphilis and its sequelae ... ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| B | 10 | Meningococcal infections ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| B | 18 | Malignant neoplasms—buccal cavity and pharynx ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| | | ,, ,, —oesophagus ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| | | ,, ,, —stomach ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 10 |
| | | ,, ,, —intestine, except rectum ... ... | — | — | — | — | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 10 |
| | | ,, ,, —rectum ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| | | ,, ,, —bronchus and lung ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | 1 | 8 | 7 | — | 16 |
| | | ,, ,, —bone ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| | | ,, ,, —all other sites ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| B | 19 | Benign and unspecified neoplasms ... ... ... ... | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | 2 |
| B | 20 | Diabetes ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| B | 22 | Vascular lesions of central nervous system ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 5 | 7 | 15 |
| B | 26 | Arteriosclerotic and degenerative heart disease ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | 9 | 17 | 32 | 58 |
| B | 27 | Other diseases of heart ... ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | 8 | 3 | 6 | 17 |
| B | 28 | Hypertension with heart disease ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 2 |
| B | 29 | Hypertension without mention of heart ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | 2 |
| B | 30 | Influenza ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 2 |
| B | 31 | Pneumonia ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 3 | — | — | — | — | 2 | 1 | 3 | 9 |
| B | 32 | Bronchitis ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 1 | 2 | 5 |
| B | 33 | Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| B | 35 | Intestinal obstruction and hernia ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | 2 |
| B | 36 | Gastritis and colitis ... ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| | | Carried forward ... ... ... ... ... ... | 3 | — | 1 | 1 | 6 | 45 | 49 | 65 | 170 |

## DEATHS

### MALE

| | | CAUSE GROUPS | YEARS Under 1 year | 1/4 | 5/14 | 15/24 | 25/44 | 45/64 | 65/74 | 75 and over | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Brought forward ... ... ... ... ... | 3 | — | 1 | 1 | 6 | 45 | 49 | 65 | 170 |
| B | 37 | Cirrhosis of liver ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | 2 |
| B | 38 | Nephritis and nephrosis ... ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 1 | 2 | 5 |
| B | 39 | Hyperplasia of prostate ... ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| B | 41 | Congenital malformations ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| B | 43 | Infections of the newborn ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| B | 44 | Other diseases of early infancy ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| B | 45 | Senility, ill-defined and unknown causes ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 16 | 16 |
| B | 46 | All other diseases ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | 2 | 5 |
| BE | 47 | Motor vehicle accidents ... ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 2 |
| BE | 48 | Accidents (Other) ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | 1 | — | — | 2 | 1 | — | 4 |
| BE | 49 | Suicide and self inflicted injury ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 1 | — | 3 |
| | | TOTAL ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 9 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 53 | 53 | 89 | 216 |

## DEATHS

### FEMALE

| | | CAUSE GROUPS | Under 1 year | 1/4 | 5/14 | 15/24 | 25/44 | 45/64 | 65/74 | 75 and over | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | 1 | Tuberculosis—respiratory | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| B | 18 | Malignant neoplasm of oesophagus | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | | " " stomach | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 7 |
| | | " " intestine, except rectum | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 3 | 2 | 7 |
| | | " " rectum | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| | | " " bronchus and lung | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | 2 |
| | | " " breast | — | — | — | — | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 8 |
| | | " " uterus | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | 2 |
| | | " " bone | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| | | " " all other sites | — | — | — | — | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| B | 19 | Benign and unspecified neoplasms | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| B | 20 | Diabetes | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| B | 21 | Anaemias | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| B | 22 | Vascular lesions of nervous system | — | — | — | 1 | — | 4 | 7 | 13 | 25 |
| B | 26 | Arteriosclerotic and degenerative heart disease | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 7 | 36 | 46 |
| B | 27 | Other diseases of heart | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 3 | 4 | 9 |
| B | 28 | Hypertension with heart disease | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | 4 |
| B | 30 | Influenza | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 4 | 5 |
| B | 31 | Pneumonia | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | 8 |
| B | 32 | Bronchitis | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 4 | 6 |
| B | 33 | Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| B | 34 | Appendicitis | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| B | 35 | Intestinal obstruction and hernia | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| B | 37 | Cirrhosis of liver | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | 2 |
| | | Carried forward | 4 | — | — | 1 | 8 | 21 | 31 | 83 | 148 |

# DEATHS

## FEMALE

| | | CAUSE GROUPS | Under 1 year | 1/4 | 5/14 | 15/24 | 25/44 | 45/64 | 65/74 | 75 and over | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Brought forward | 4 | — | — | 1 | 8 | 21 | 31 | 83 | 148 |
| B | 38 | Nephritis and Nephrosis | — | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 7 |
| B | 44 | Diseases of early infancy | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 |
| B | 45 | Senility, ill-defined and unknown causes | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 35 | 35 |
| B | 46 | All other diseases | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | 2 | — | 4 | 8 |
| BE | 47 | Motor vehicle accidents | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| BE | 48 | Other accidents | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| BE | 49 | Suicide and self-inflicted injury | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 2 |
| | | TOTAL | 9 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 26 | 33 | 126 | 207 |

## INFANTILE MORTALITY

| | | CAUSE GROUPS | MONTHS | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 28 days to 2 months | 2/3 | 3/4 | 4/5 | 5/6 | 6/7 | 7/8 | 8/9 | 9/10 | 11/12 | Total |
| B | 31 | Pneumonia ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | 6 |
| B | 41 | Congenital Malformations ... ... ... | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| | | TOTAL ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | — | 2 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | 7 |

| | | CAUSE GROUPS | DAYS | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Under 1 day | 1/2 | 2/3 | 3/4 | 4/5 | 5/6 | 6/7 | 7/14 | 14/21 | 21/28 | Total |
| B | 31 | Pneumonia ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| B | 41 | Congenital Malformations ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| B | 43 | Infections of Newborn ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| B | 44 | Diseases of early infancy ... ... ... | 1 | 2 | 3 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 7 |
| B | 46 | All other diseases ... ... ... ... | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| | | TOTAL ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | 3 | 3 | — | — | 1 | 1 | 2 | — | — | 11 |

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PATHOLOGY DEPARTMENT FOR 1955

On November 13th we occupied the new department building without any break in the continuity of the laboratory service. The main advantages of the new premises are the excellent working conditions for the staff with proper facilities for the reception of patients, the practical value of the internal design which provides the best conditions for supervision, and adequate space for future developments.

### *General Medical Laboratory Tests*

This comprises all tests on the various specimens obtained from hospital and non-hospitalised patients. The total number was 8,008, an increase of 10.9% on last year and is 64.5% of our total work. During the past month the following tests have been established:—estimation of fats in faeces, cholesterol in blood and thymol turbidity in serum. The estimations of protein, acid and alkaline phosphatase and uric acid in blood will be added to our growing syllabus by March, 1956. In the past it has been necessary to refer all these tests elsewhere. Besides, therefore, providing a rapid result expenditure on such tests will cease. Specimens sent to Dorset totalled 241 or 3% of the general tests. They were:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Biopsy material for section ... | 104 |
| Animal inoculation for T.B. ... | 44 |
| Miscellaneous ... ... ... | 93 |

### *Routine Tests*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Urethral, cervical and vaginal smears ... | 44 |
| 2. | Urethral, cervical and vaginal cultures | 47 |
| 3. | Sputum. Direct for T.B. ... | 509 |
| 4. | Sputum. Culture for T.B. | 51 |
| 5. | Sputum. Culture for other organisms ... | 95 |
| 6. | Sputum. T.B. sensitivity tests ... | 7 |
| 7. | Eye smears ... | 8 |
| 8. | Eye cultures ... | 137 |
| 9. | Urine deposit ... | 403 |
| 10. | Urine routine test ... | 307 |
| 11. | Urine smears—bacteriology | 2 |
| 12. | Urine cultures | 214 |
| 13. | Urine Urea ... | 20 |
| 14. | Urine acetone derivatives and Ph. | 5 |
| 15. | Urine indican bile and blood | 11 |
| 16. | Urine T.B. cultures ... | 13 |
| 17. | Urine Chlorides | 15 |
| 18. | Blood cultures | 14 |
| 19. | Blood Cholesterol ... | 1 |
| 20. | Blood total leucocyte count | 504 |
| 21. | Blood Red cell count | 319 |
| 22. | Blood Haemoglobin ... | 1,165 |
| 23. | Blood Van den Bergh | 12 |
| 24. | Blood Bilirubin | 17 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 25. | Blood Differential count | 473 |
| 26. | Blood sedimentation rate | 915 |
| 27. | Blood sugar | 174 |
| 28. | Blood urea | 117 |
| 29. | Blood smears for anthrax | 1 |
| 30. | Blood cell volume | 288 |
| 31. | Blood widals | 9 |
| 32. | Blood other agglutinations | 1 |
| 33. | Blood parasites | 2 |
| 34. | Blood Paul Bunnell | 10 |
| 35. | Blood coagulation | 37 |
| 36. | Blood bleeding | 22 |
| 37. | Blood Platelets | 16 |
| 38. | Blood reticulocytes | 4 |
| 39. | Blood cephalin | 11 |
| 40. | Blood Wassermann | 335 |
| 41. | Blood thymol turbidity | 1 |
| 42. | Blood prothrombin | 227 |
| 43. | Throat smears for K.L.B. | 7 |
| 44. | Throat cultures for K.L.B. | 16 |
| 45. | Throat cultures for H. Streptococci | 43 |
| 46. | Semen fertility test | 36 |
| 47. | Stool occult blood | 176 |
| 48. | Stool direct smear | 51 |
| 49. | Stool cultures | 101 |
| 50. | Stool fat estimation | 1 |
| 51. | Fractional gastric analysis | 31 |
| 52. | Skin fungi and parasites | 8 |
| 53. | Coagulase tests | 119 |
| 54. | Pus direct smear | 15 |
| 55. | Pus culture | 111 |
| 56. | Cerebro-spinal fluid cell count | 35 |
| 57. | Cerebro-spinal fluid direct smear | 7 |
| 58. | Cerebro-spinal fluid chloride | 27 |
| 59. | Cerebro-spinal fluid globulin | 2 |
| 60. | Cerebro-spinal fluid Sugar | 26 |
| 61. | Cerebro-spinal fluid culture | 10 |
| 62. | Cerebro-spinal fluid Wassermann | 4 |
| 63. | Cerebro-spinal fluid total protein | 31 |
| 64. | Cerebro-spinal fluid T.B. direct | 5 |
| 65. | Pleural and other fluids. Culture | 30 |
| 66. | Pleural and other fluids. Direct smear | 12 |
| 67. | Pleural and other fluids. Cell count | 1 |
| 68. | Ear, nose and throat smears | 3 |
| 69. | Ear, nose and throat culture | 165 |
| 70. | Autogenous vaccine | 1 |
| 71. | Antibiotic sensitivity tests | 371 |
| | | 8,008 |

### *Public Health Tests*

These are the routine tests and special investigations requested by the Medical Officer of Health to check and control the standards of the water supplies and ice cream, milk and general foods on sale to the public. It also includes the examination of milk samples from cows suspected of harbouring mastitis organisms. The total number was 2,827, an increase of 3.3% and is 23% of our total work.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Foods ... | 20 |
| 2. | Milk for Mastitis check ... | 428 |
| 3. | Milk Phosphatase ... | 96 |
| 4. | Milk fat estimation ... | 675 |
| 5. | Milk Reductase—unsatisfactory ... | 75 |
| 6. | Milk Reductase—satisfactory ... | 551 |
| 7. | Cream fat estimation ... | 9 |
| 8. | Ice Cream Satisfactory ... | 90 |
| 9. | Ice Cream Suspicious ... | 12 |
| 10. | Ice Cream Unsatisfactory ... | 4 |
| 11. | Water chloride tests ... | 9 |
| 12. | Water presumptive coli Satisfactory ... | 729 |
| 13. | Water presumptive coli Suspicious ... | 9 |
| 14. | Water presumptive coli Unsatisfactory ... | 36 |
| 15. | Water Conclusive coli tests ... | 84 |
| | | 2,827 |

### *Blood Grouping and Transfusion*

Progress was made during the year in this section. Following discussions with the President of the Board of Health it was proposed to increase the number of registered blood donors, and in particular, those of the rhesus negative category. During February and March more than one hundred new volunteers were tested, and in April we were able to start a regular weekly blood collection session. The following information illustrates the change this new blood donation arrangement has made.

| | *Guernsey donation* | *South London donation* | *Monthly Average* |
|---|---|---|---|
| January—March | 19 pints | 57 pints | 25 pints |
| April—December | 117 pints | None | 13 pints |

These figures include a few pints of blood donated for emergency requests that are sometimes necessary, unavoidable but infrequent. Guernsey has supplied *all* the blood for her needs since April. The marked drop in the monthly average is the result of being able to control the local supply more effectively. Previously the blood bank had to be maintained with a constant minimum excess because of difficulties experienced in traffic problems from the U.K., and constant fluctuation in the London supply position. Expiry periods also varied with each consignment, and have been as short as seven days.

During the period that this scheme was being developed the prepared blood collecting bottles received from London were not always entirely satisfactory. The decision was made to prepare our own containers. Pilot bottle attachment samplers were obtained, an extra safety device designed this year, and since August we have prepared and are responsible for all containers. In effect, a complete blood transfusion service has now been established. Its nature demands that all procedures must be completely divorced from other work at all times. It carries special responsibilities and only the knowledge that the new laboratory would provide the necessary facilities to operate this Blood Grouping and transfusion Unit made its establishment feasible and practical.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Rhesus grouping ... ... ... ... | 552 |
| 2. | ABO grouping ... ... ... ... ... | 560 |
| 3. | Cross matchings ... ... ... ... ... | 281 |
| 4. | Coombs test ... ... ... ... ... | 111 |

The total number was 1,504, an increase of 59% and represents 12.5% of the total work. The marked increase is due to more antenatal routine tests and the adoption of the Coombs test in our blood matching technique for transfusion work. Also the testing of 100 new volunteers will not recur next year.

## GENERAL SUMMARY

The total number of tests for 1955 was 12,339. The previous highest was 10,905 in 1954. The year has been rather strenuous with important progress in our services. It was also the most difficult year, but the loyal co-operation of all the staff was an important feature in maintaining control of the increased work in rather difficult surroundings. I am gratified to submit this, my ninth Annual Report for your consideration, from the new laboratory. It has solved many of the past difficulties of working conditions and the laboratory staff are very appreciative of the excellent conditions provided.

HENRY A. WILSON,
Chief Technician.

February, 1956.

# ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER, 1955.

I herewith submit my report on the administration of the Chief Sanitary Inspector's department for the year 1955. The usual problems have been satisfactorily dealt with and a large number of improvements effected in various parts of the island.

An outbreak of small-pox occurred in the Morbihan district of Brittany and in consequence all persons travelling to the Channel Isles from the infected area were visited on arrival in this island and kept under supervision for a required period. In this connection sixty-nine visits were made.

The various aspects of the work carried out by the Inspectorate of the Department will be found in tabular form in my report.

G. AUSTIN, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.H.

## HOUSING INSPECTIONS

| | |
|---|---|
| Requests from States Housing Authority | 162 |
| Requests from other sources | 144 |
| Routine housing inspections | 89 |
| Inspections of sanitary defects and drainage | 144 |
| Re-inspections of work in progress or completed | 317 |
| Number of drains tested | 113 |
| Number of houses closed during the year—Permanently | 7 |
| Temporarily | 3 |
| Referred through Housing Authority—Permanently | 15 |
| Temporarily | 5 |

## OTHER INSPECTIONS

| | |
|---|---|
| Public buildings | 5 |
| Schools | 32 |
| Camp sites | 61 |
| Caravan sites | 6 |
| Work places and shops | 7 |
| Proposed knacker yard sites | 2 |
| Complaints investigated and abated | 188 |
| Statutory notices served | 71 |
| Work carried out by verbal agreement | 59 |
| Interviews and Requests for advice | 756 |

## INSPECTIONS OF FOOD PREMISES

| | |
|---|---|
| Cafés and Restaurants ... ... ... ... | 122 |
| Fish and Chip shops ... ... ... ... | 16 |
| Bakehouses ... ... ... ... ... | 54 |
| Food storing or Food preparing places, etc. | 20 |
| Markets ... ... ... ... ... ... | 47 |

Food examined and condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

Baby Food, 19 tins.
Bacon, 2 tins, 178 lbs. 1 oz.
Baked Beans, 126 tins.
Beverages, 10 tins, 12 bottles.
Biscuits, 7 packets.
Blancmange, 48 tins.
Barley Crystals, 21 bottles, 7 tins.
Cake, 8 lbs.
Cake Mixture, 24 packets.
Calves Foot Jelly, 1 jar.
Cereals, 14 cartons.
Cheese, 78 dozen and 3 cartons.
Cheese, 182 portions, 7 cheeses.
Cheese, 26 dozen and 7 blocks, 2 loaves.
Cheese, 19 dozen packets, 17 slices.
Cheese, 75 lbs. 6 ozs., 93 boxes.
Chicken, 4 dozen and 4 tins, 190½ lbs.
Chicken Cutlets, 24.
Chocolate Pudding, 1 tin.
Cream, 52 tins.
Desiccated Coconut, 268 packets.
Fish, 32 dozen and 9 tins, 94 cartons.
Fish, 6 boxes.
Fruit, 214 lbs., 12 cases, 1 jar.
Fruit, 254 dozen and 6 tins, 4 trays.
Fruit Juice, 19 dozen and 1 tin.
Galatine, 1 tin.
Ground Rice, 35 packets.
Jam, 13 jars, 48 tins.
Jellies, 17 packets.
Lemon Curd, 1 tin, 1 jar.
Lemon Powder, 4 tins, 3 bottles.
Margarine, 39½ lbs.
Marmalade, 18 tins.
Meat (tinned), 80 dozen and 6 tins.
Meat (loose), 284 lbs.
Milks, 510 tins.
Mincemeat, 73 tins.
Mushrooms, 8 boxes.
Mustard, 4 tins.
Nuts, 70 packets.
Onions, 1 bottle, 11 jars.
Pastes, 2 jars, 2 dozen and 11 tins.
Pickles, 2 jars.
Pudding Mixture, 3 tins, 12 packets.
Ravioli, 18 tins.
Sago, 4 packets, 10 tins.
Salad Cream, 2 bottles.
Sandwich Spread, 6 jars.
Sauces, 10 bottles.
Sausages, 17 lbs., 4 packets, 68 tins.
Semolina, 1 packet, 1 tin.
Soup, 208 tins.
Sponge Mixture, 41 tins.
Steak, 2 dozen and 10 tins.
Suet, 64 packets, 7 tins.
Tea Cakes, 64.
Vegetables, 12 bags, 5 jars, 417 tins.

Food Analysed during 1955:—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Baking Powder ... ... ... | 1 | Guernsey Sweets ... ... ... | 2 |
| Blancmange Powder ... ... | 1 | Jams ... ... ... ... ... | 3 |
| Buttered Roll ... ... ... ... | 1 | Mayonnaise ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| Cheesecake ... ... ... ... | 1 | Mincemeat ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Currant Bun ... ... ... ... | 1 | Mineral Like Substance ... ... | 1 |
| Egg Albumen (Chinese) ... ... | 3 | Pepper Compound ... ... ... | 1 |
| Flour ... ... ... ... ... | 5 | Porage Oats ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Fresh Cream ... ... ... ... | 8 | Pudding ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Fruit Chocolate ... ... ... | 4 | Sage and Onion Stuffing ... ... | 1 |
| Goat's Milk ... ... ... ... | 4 | Sausages ... ... ... ... | 10 |
| Grapefruit ... ... ... ... | 1 | Scone ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Ground Ginger ... ... ... | 1 | Tea Substitute ... ... ... | 1 |

## MILK SAMPLES ANALYSED DURING 1955

| | |
|---|---|
| Formal samples ... ... | 6 |
| Informal samples ... ... | 635 |
| Fat and M.B. Test ... ... | 616 |
| Appeal to cow samples ... | 388 |

## INSPECTIONS

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of farm re-inspections ... ... ... ... ... | 138 |
| Farmers interviewed re unsatisfactory conditions ... ... | 102 |
| Inspection of milk retailer utensils, etc. ... ... ... | 622 |
| Visits to States Dairy and Road Collection depots ... ... | 84 |
| Farms visited for check samples ... ... ... ... ... | 68 |
| Number of full herd checks ... ... ... ... ... | 59 |
| Cases found of suspect Mastitis ... ... ... ... ... | 93 |

## MONTHLY AVERAGE OF FAT AND NON FATTY SOLIDS

| *Month* | *Fat* | *Non Fatty Solids* |
|---|---|---|
| January ... ... ... ... | 4.6% | 9.01% |
| February ... ... ... ... | 4.5% | 8.88% |
| March ... ... ... ... | 4.7% | 9.13% |
| April ... ... ... ... | 4.5% | 9.26% |
| May ... ... ... ... | 4.8% | 9.30% |
| June ... ... ... ... | 4.7% | 9.23% |
| July ... ... ... ... | 4.8% | 9.28% |
| August ... ... ... ... | 4.5% | 9.41% |
| September ... ... ... | 5.0% | 9.32% |
| October ... ... ... ... | 4.7% | 9.17% |
| November ... ... ... | 4.8% | 9.07% |
| December ... ... ... ... | 4.7% | 9.11% |

| | |
|---|---|
| Average fat content for the year ... ... ... ... | 4.7% |
| Average non fatty solids for year ... ... ... ... | 9.16% |
| Percentage of unsatisfactory milk, i.e. failed M.B. test ... | 12% |

## ALDERNEY MILK

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| No. of samples sent for fat content ... ... ... | 69 | 4.7% |

Two formal milk samples were taken and one successful prosecution was taken against a farmer for adulteration.

## ICE CREAM 1955

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of visits to ice cream manufacturers ... ... | 36 |
| Total number of samples taken ... ... ... ... | 110 |
| Number of imported samples taken ... ... ... | 78 |
| Number of samples taken for fat and sugar ... ... | 4 |

## LOCAL ICE CREAM SAMPLES

| *Grade* | *No. of Samples* | *Percentage* |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 7 | 22% |
| 2 | 12 | 38% |
| 3 | 9 | 28% |
| 4 | 4 | 12% |

## IMPORTED ICE CREAM SAMPLES

| *Grade* | *No. of Samples* | *Percentage* |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 63 | 81% |
| 2 | 11 | 14% |
| 3 | 4 | 5% |
| 4 | 0 | — |

## RETAILERS AND MANUFACTURERS

| *Manufacturer's Number* | *Grades* | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | *Total* |
| 1 | 4 | 10 | 8 | 3 | |
| 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | |
| Total | 7 | 12 | 9 | 4 | = 32 |
| Percentages | 22% | 38% | 28% | 12% | |

## IMPORTED

| *Manufacturer's Number* | *Grades* | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | *Total* |
| 1 | 40 | 5 | 2 | 0 | |
| 2 | 14 | 2 | 2 | 0 | |
| 3 | 9 | 4 | 0 | 0 | |
| Total | 63 | 11 | 4 | 0 | = 78 |
| Percentages | 81% | 14% | 5% | — | |

## WATER SUPPLY

An even lower rainfall than that of 1954, viz. 29.97 inches has again drawn very heavily on our local storage supply and the state of the dam on 31st December was indeed very low. Unless extremely heavy rainfall occurs during the three first months of 1956 the situation will undoubtedly call for the most rigid economy from all users of the public supply.

| | |
|---|---|
| Weekly samples taken from States Mains ... ... | 634 |
| Samples from private wells ... ... ... ... | 47 |
| Samples from schools ... ... ... ... ... | 51 |
| Samples from public pumps ... ... ... ... | 8 |
| Samples from streams ... ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| Samples from fountains ... ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| Samples from camp sites ... ... ... ... | 3 |
| Samples from Alderney ... ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| Samples from Herm ... ... ... ... ... | 23 |
| Samples from Jethou ... ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| Full examinations ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Total samples taken during 1955 ... ... ... | 783 |

## REFUSE DISPOSAL

The Vale Castle refuse tip was filled during the first months of the year and tipping commenced at La Garenne. Pumping operations were completed before tipping began and up to the end of this year very satisfactory tipping was experienced. This tip should last from two and a half to three years. The working is being handed over from the Parochial Authorities to the States and the addition of a small tractor will be of very great help. Fifty-nine visits were made during the year.

## RODENT CONTROL

No large infestations have been reported in the island during the year. The heaviest were at Portelet Bay and Grand Havre.

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of properties visited ... ... | 2,389 |
| Number of visits made ... ... ... | 2,986 |
| Number of new infestations ... ... ... | 115 |
| Number of properties cleared ... ... | 18 |
| Number of properties gassed ... ... | 38 |
| Number of Wasps nests destroyed ... ... | 86 |

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

| | |
|---|---|
| Inspections made in connection with notifiable infectious diseases ... | 91 |

## DISINFECTIONS

The following disinfections have been carried out:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Private houses for infectious diseases ... | 45 |

## ARTICLES STOVED AT KING EDWARD SANATORIUM

| | |
|---|---|
| Princess Elizabeth Hospital ... ... ... | 448 |
| St. John Ambulance Brigade ... ... | 417 |
| Maternity Hospital ... ... ... ... | 16 |
| Notifiable Infectious Diseases ... ... | 555 |
| Total ... ... ... ... ... | 1,436 |

## DISINFESTATIONS

| | |
|---|---|
| Disinfestations carried out ... ... ... | 84 |

## WARDS DISINFECTED

| | |
|---|---|
| Princess Elizabeth Hospital ... ... ... | 8 |
| King Edward Sanatorium ... ... ... | 8 |

## ALDERNEY

Farm visits were made during the year and routine inspections carried out.

## HERM ISLAND

23 water samples were taken. In spite of the new well which was sunk in 1954 a water shortage has been experienced. A fractured sewer outfall was traced on the beach in front of the Mermaid Tavern and has now been repaired. Visits have been made by the Rodent Operator.